U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Service
821 Market Street, Room 555
San Francisco 3, California
Western Area

Approx. Time 15 minutes
January 2, 1946
District and State Directors
Can fit to allotted time



FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM----AT HOME AND ABROAD
(Weekly Script No. 91)

2 District and State Directors are urged to time all scripts in advance. News releases from this office are a good source of additional news items.

SUBJECTS: World History of School Lunches

PARTICIPANTS: Announcer
P & MA

All music directions are purely optional, but would add finish to broadcast.

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MUSIC UP AND UNDER

ANNCR: Good _____, friends. We bring you another of our weekly broadcasts about food. Everyone of us wants to do everything he or she can, to help this great nation of ours in the reconversion to peacetime living. Our government still has a tremendous food management job ahead. How is it handling this job? And what can you do to help? You'll find out if you listen each week to:

PMA: FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM.....AT HOME AND ABROAD.

ANNCR: And now here is _____ _____, assistant state director for the Production and Marketing Administration, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

PMA: Thank you, _____. As we start this first year of peace after World War II, we still find ourselves interested in the international picture...and particularly in activities which are related to what we're doing in our own country. Today, I thought you folks might be interested in the way school lunch programs have developed in other parts of the world.

ANNCR: Then school lunches aren't something strictly "American.".....

PMA: Not at all. Frankly, we've been slow in doing something about child feeding programs in this country, compared with the progress made in European countries.

ANNOR: Well, where did the school lunch program first start?

PMA: Actually school feeding grew out of the industrial revolution and the social doctrines of the French Revolution.

ANNOR: You mean as far back as the 18th Century....

PMA: Yes...you might say that the school lunch movement has been developing in the school systems of this country and Europe for the past 150 years!

ANNOR: Then school lunch programs are almost as old as our nation!

PMA: However, of course, in the early days, school feeding programs were mostly local ventures. It is rather interesting, though, that the rise of the programs have been quite similar in all western countries. They started as charitable enterprises...and were carried on by private groups, or semi-official agencies....Later, municipal groups became concerned...and finally state and national governments entered the field.

ANNOR: How long did it take for the lunch program to reach this final stage of federal and state government interest here in the United States?

PMA: Actually there wasn't any coordinated movement until the 1930's.... so you will admit we were somewhat slow getting started. However, I should defend our position just a little by pointing out that early in 1900, public interest was really aroused... and mainly because of the problem of malnutrition among children. Of course, before then, there had been efforts here and there by private agencies to do something about their local problems of undernourished children.

AMMCR: And what did this public interest result in? Seems to me about thirty years elapsed there, before this coordinated activity you mentioned took place.

PMA: Well, during this thirty-year period, many cities started their own "penny lunch" programs in elementary schools. But the ball really started rolling in this country, according to the historical evidence we have, with the publication of two books....one entitled "Poverty" published in 1904....and another, "Underfed School Children, the Problem and the Remedy," published in 1906. The authors estimated there were several million undernourished children in the United States, pointed out how Europe had attacked the problem, and advocated a similar program in the United States.

AMMCR: And that was enough to kindle plenty of public feeling!

PMA: These early efforts weren't the full mid-day meal we know today as the school lunch. For example, this "penny lunch" in most schools usually consisted of small portions of food, a bowl of soup, bread and butter, and cocoa. And such a meal was sold for 1 to 3 cents during the midmorning recess or midafternoon.....not as the regular lunch.....

AMMCR: ....Sort of a supplementary meal...

PMA: That's right.

AMMCR: You've indicated that European countries moved a little faster in tackling this problem of undernourished children than we did....How did <u>they</u> go about it?

PMA: England saw the light during the Boer War. School lunches became a national issue in that country in 1902 when a major general in the British Army made the startling statement that two out of every five men who wished to become soldiers were physically unfit.....

AMICR: .....And certainly we found out the same sort of thing through Selective Service in this country when World War II started.....

PMA: Exactly. There seems to be little question about the fact that men who don't have the right kinds of food when they're young are not physically fit in later years.

AMICR: After this British Army officer stirred things up, then what?

PMA: Four years later in 1906, the school lunch program officially started in England when Parliament passed the "Provision of Meals Act." This law trasferred school feeding from charities to local educational officials. It authorized them to install, as part of their regular school equipment, restaurants for serving warm meals to children. The meals were free to those who couldn't afford to pay for them, and at cost to others.

AMICR: Sounds like a compulsory program.

PMA: No, it wasn't at all. The local committees which always included a member of the school board continued to control their own programs. Food costs were met by parents and voluntary contributions insofar as possible. If these sources didn't provide sufficient funds, local taxes took care of the rest. From this beginning, the lunch program in England was broadened. Later medical officers assisted with the planning of meals, on the basis of nutritional needs of the children. Meals were authorized during vacation periods because many children were found to be losing weight they had gained during the school term. A National Milk Marketing Scheme enacted in 1934 provided free milk to children or at a special price. In 1938, a provision was included in unemployment legislation so young people attending certain vocational classes could have meals at school. And that's a brief history of school lunch in England.

ANNCR: How about some of the other European countries?

PMA: The experience in England is pretty typical of what happened on the continent. National legislation, supporting lunch service for children, was enacted in Holland, France, Switzerland, Scotland, Denmark, Italy, Finland, Austria, and Belgium.

ANNCR: And during this last war, a lot of the good gained from these programs has probably been lost.....

PMA: Undoubtedly.....However, the benefits of past lunch programs probably gave the youth of these countries added strength and stamina to go through the terrible war years. I might add that Russia and Spain have nation-wide programs. In Sweden and Norway, extensive municipal legislation has taken care of child feeding....Germany also had lunch programs under municipal laws.

ANNCR: Then, England was the first country to set up a nation-wide program.

PMA: No....actually Holland is credited with being the first country to specifically pass a law for child feeding. In 1900, municipalities were authorized to provide both food and clothing to children in public and private schools, who were unable to go to school regularly....or probably couldn't continue school.....because they didn't have these necessities of life.

ANNCR: Say, wasn't there some talk about building up school lunch programs, as part of a world health program....through this new Food and Agricultural Organization that met last fall in Quebec?

PMA: Well, of course, all programs to promote better nutrition were discussed.

ANNCR: But from what you've been telling us, a good many countries already have a good start on child feeding programs...

PMA: It's certainly true that some progress has been made. However, surveys still show that we have a long way to go in this country....and this holds true in other countries. For instance in Latin America, child feeding programs didn't get government support until the late 1920's. But when the public authorities finally did get interested, they went full steam ahead. As you may know, the problem of child malnutrition is serious in both South and Central America.

AMCR: Of course we didn't have a headstart ourselves, _____. But I've certainly gathered from information you've given us from time to time, that school lunches are quite widespread throughout this state, and all over the country, for that matter.

PMA: We've come a long way from the situation after World War I. In the early days of school lunch development in this country, more attention was apparently paid to the midday meal for high school students. The New York Bureau of Municipal Research made a study in 1918 in eighty-six cities of more than 50,000 population. The study revealed that some provision for lunches was made in high schools in seventy-six percent of the cities, and in elementary schools, in only twenty-five percent of these cities.

AMCR: I suppose people figured that the younger children in grade schools didn't spend as much time at school as the high school kids...

PMA: Whatever the reasoning was, from a nutrition point of view it didn't hold true. I might add, though, that in this particular period, lunches were made available to high school students as a convenience... and not as a means of solving a local nutrition problem. Out of 72 who reported having a lunch service, only five indicated they had put in their food service to combat malnutrition.

ANNCR: I guess in that day and age proper eating for good health wasn't given as much consideration as it is now.

PMA: People didn't think in terms of a balanced diet the way they do now. If a person was in normal good health, he usually ate according to family eating habits.

ANNCR: After this earlier development in city schools, what next....

PMA: Well as you'd imagine the rural schools had feeding problems because so many of the children lived considerable distances from school. For many years, state and federal extension workers continually suggested the need for lunch programs in rural areas....and set up plans for programs. In many cases, it was quite a common practice for the children to contribute food for a hot dish prepared by the teacher...this dish either took the place of a cold lunch brought for home...or supplemented the children's packed lunches.

ANNCR: Then, from this small beginning has developed into our nation-wide type of program....

PMA: Until we hit the great depression of the thirties, developments were pretty much along these lines of local effort. In 1931, the Director of Research of the Nation's schools estimated that 64,500 cafeterias were serving single hot dishes,..and that additional cafeterias were opening at the rate of 7,500 a year. In the past ten or fifteen years, we've made very rapid progress toward making lunches available for all children in all schools...whether it's a big city school of several thousand population...or a two-room rural school with only fifty enrolled.

ANNCR: I guess the depression really brought the problem to a head...

PMA: It certainly did, as far as national legislation is concerned. And it's often a surprise to some people when they learn that our lunch program had its first national legislative backing as a solution to an agricultural problem. There we were in the early 1930's with surpluses of food on the farms...and hungry men, women and children in cities and towns.

AMTCR: ....The paradox of hunger amidst plenty...

PMA: And this paradox gave impetus to the efforts of many people who had been studying child health problems. Obviously, during the depression, we had malnutrition among our children and our adults. It was more apparent among school children because they'd come to school in the morning with no breakfast or no lunch...and perhaps they'd faint or fall asleep in class....they'd lose weight...their school work would be poor. And since local funds weren't available for school feeding at that time, Federal assistance was necessary.

AMTCR: So with a nutrition problem and farm surpluses, the job was to get the food to the children.....

PMA: Yes, and farmers had been worried with this surplus problem for a long time. Some kind of price support was also needed. Thus, in the beginning, the Department of Agriculture began the direct purchase of farm products and their distribution to school lunch programs, and to other needy people, as one way to help solve the surplus problem. This continued until the war period, when we changed to the reimbursement program.

AMTCR: And as I understand this present method of financial assistance also ties in with the farm marketing situation.

PMA: That's right. There's a very definite tie-up with farm marketing. School lunch programs serve as an outlet for local food abundances.... they're an additional market which farmers can count on. Under direct distribution, they're an outlet for excess food stocks, or for commodities purchased under price support. Then, under the reimbursement program, individual schools buy their food in their own locality. So local farmers are benefited....and the present program of providing a full meal for the children promotes consumption of a wider variety of farm products.

ANNCR: Yes, after all, children aren't dieticians. You can't expect them to pick out a lunch from the cafeteria counter which will be well balanced. So a pre-determined balanced meal solves the problem....

PMA: And also promotes good eating habits. Then you've probably heard the remark that when people are eating a healthful diet, we are less apt to have farm surpluses.

ANNCR: We've found that out during the past few years....when our food buying power has been so much larger. However, aside from this market angle our farmers can appreciate this type of program because of the benefits to their own children and all the other children in their community.

PMA: This, of course, is the important long-time benefit. The children of today who receive proper nourishment will be much better able to shoulder their responsibilities as citizens of the future. However, under the present type of program, it is a little difficult to know the exact amount of farm products consumed all over the country through school lunches. In 1942, for example, when the program was the form of direct distribution of commodities to schools, over 73 million pounds of food were distributed during the single month of March to schools, and about 6,100,000 children were getting lunches on a national basis. The peak of operation last year (1945) was in February. That month,

(more)

PMA: (Cont.) participation of school children reached over 4½ million.

ANNCR: That's quite a handful of consumers...it must represent a pretty big market for food, throughout the entire school year.

PMA: It does. Over 678 million meals were served in the fiscal year which ended last June. The Federal government's share of the bill for all these meals amounted to over 47½ million dollars. This covered operations in the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii and the Caribbean Area....

ANNCR: And the schools' share of the food bill was at least equal to this 47½ million dollars...

PMA: The schools' share was greater than the Federal government's contribution. The average indemnity paid for each meal by the USDA amounted to only six and two-tenths cents...and most complete meals would cost more than 12½ cents.

ANNCR: Perhaps we were a little slow getting started with a national school lunch program, but we've done the job at a good rate of speed, seems to me. Our thanks to you, _____, for this interesting history behind child feeding programs.

This report on home front food activities has come to you from the Production and Marketing Administration office at _____. Listen again (next week at this same time) for current news and information on FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM.....AT HOME AND ABROAD.

This broadcast has been a public service feature of radio station _____, presented especially for _____ farmers and consumers.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Service
821 Market Street, Room 555
San Francisco 3, California
Western Area

Approx. Time: 15 min.
January 10, 1946
District and State Directors can fit to allotted time



FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM---AT HOME AND ABROAD
(Weekly Script No. 92)

District and State Directors are urged to time all scripts in advance. News releases from this office are a good source of additional news items.

SUBJECT: The Dairy Situation

PARTICIPANTS: Announcer
P&MA

All music directions are purely optional, but would add finish to broadcast.

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MUSIC UP AND UNDER

ANNCR: Good morning, friends, We bring you another of our weekly broadcasts about food. Everyone of us wants to do everything he or she can, to help this great nation of ours in the reconversion to peacetime living. Our government still has a tremendous food management job agead. How is it handling this job? And what can you do to help? You'll find out if you listen each week to:

PMA: FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM....AT HOME AND ABROAD.

ANNCR: And now here is _____, assistant state director for the Production and Marketing Administration, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

PMA: Thanks, _____. It's probably high time that I explain to folks some of the reasons for the current butter shortage...and why butter will undoubtedly be in somewhat short supply for quite a few months to come.

ANNCR: Well, I can't think of any subject they'd like to know about more than this butter problem.

PMA: Of course, I don't presume to have all the answers, but I believe if I go over some of the facts that it will at least clear up some of the misunderstandings,

ANNCR: Yes, because you know, _____, it's a little hard for people to understand why if milk production was the highest on record last year.... 123 billion pounds...that once the war is over, and rationing controls are off butter, it's shorter than ever before.

PMA: All right....let's look at the record. We'll consider the period 1940-45. In those years, over-all milk production increased 18 percent...deliveries to wholesalers and processors as whole milk, instead of farm separated cream, increased 37 percent...the consumption of fluid milk increased 25 percent...the manufacture of cheddar cheese increased 80 percent.... in 1945 we had more cheddar cheese produced in this country than ever before.

ANNCR: Looks like everything produced from milk has been on the increase.

PMA: That's the point. To continue this list of increases, the production of evaporated milk increased 60 percent...dry whole milk powder shot up 700 percent....Then, last year, about 150 million pounds of dry ice cream powder was made, compared to practically none in 1940. On these last two items alone...dry whole milk powder and dry ice cream powder...the quantities of butterfat used in these products would be enough to make about a pound of butter for every single member of the population of our entire country.

ANNCR: Well....no wonder butter production is down!

PMA: And we must remember that evaporated milk, cheese, dry whole milk powder and ice cream powder were needed in large quantities to fill war needs. The Army is continuing to take ice cream powder, and dairy products will fill important food needs in liberated areas.

ANNCR: Even so, now that the war is over, the military demand for dairy products is certainly going to be a lot less.

PMA: Of course it is. But I've pointed out these percentage increases in various dairy products so folks would get some idea of the changes which have taken place in the use of milk supply during the war years. And these changes were influenced in several instances by wartime control measures, to get the required amount of certain products needed for overseas shipment.

ANNCR: You mean like set-aside orders?

PMA: Yes, and orders which limited the quantity of total milk fat and milk solids-not-fat to be used in the manufacture of certain dairy products. For instance, War Food Order No. 13 forbade the sale of cream with more than 19 percent butterfat and established quotas for the sale and delivery of filled cream.

ANNCR: And these orders have been taken off, so now cream can contain more butterfat.

PMA: That's the idea. I'm not going into detail on all the various control measures which were a part of our dairy program. Aside from the controls, there have been subsidies to encourage the production of several products more urgently needed than others....dairy feed payments to producers...a rollback subsidy on butter to hold the line on the cost of living...

...an incentive subsidy on the manufacture of cheddar cheese which will come off on February 1. The purpose of this cheddar cheese subsidy has been to permit manufacturers to compete for the milk supply on a better basis with manufacturers of other milk products, by being able to pay more money to producers.

ANNCR: And this way, the government could obtain the necessary amount of cheese for our armed forces and for lend-lease.

PMA: Exactly...But along with the war food orders, these subsidies have also been terminated. The rollback subsidy on butter, for example, was tied to the wage stabilization program. Wage stabilization was ended in September, and October 31, the butter subsidy closed. Thus, with the end of the butter price roll-back, we had an increase in ceiling prices.

ANNCR: So actually, we have a situation in the dairy industry of no controls and practically no subsidies.

PMA: Except that the dairy feed payments, will continue until June 30. However, we do have ceiling prices.

ANNCR: That's right...and without other balancing controls, I suppose ceiling prices on dairy products would have some effect on which manufacturing channels the milk supply would flow into.

PMA: A good point....because in this particular case, we have a very interesting situation. Now, to begin with, ceiling prices on dairy products were established early in October of 1942. At this time there had already been considerable increase in demand from both military and lend-lease for certain dairy products adaptable to overseas shipment.

ANNCR: Yes, and at that time, civilian demand for food was beginning to increase because of added employment in war industries.

PMA: All of which meant that there had already been quite a considerable change in the /pattern of milk utilization. Orders had been placed for tremendous quantities of evaporated, condensed and dried milk, and for related products such as ice cream powder. And don't forget that fluid milk consumption was also starting on the upward grade.

ANNCR: In other words, every product made from milk was going to be in greater demand than the milk supply could take care of, despite the fact that farmers were doing everything possible to increase the milk supply.

PMA: But we didn't quite realize that at the start of the war. Farmers continued all through the war to bring milk production up as near to demand as possible.

ANNCR: But demand went way beyond anyone's expectations.....

PMA: ....in fact, beyond the realm of possibility, in terms of our dairy production plant. After all, we were practically a grocery supplier for the world during much of the war period.

ANNCR: Looks like we'll continue to be one for awhile, too.

PMA: Yes, because cheese, dried milk and evaporated milk will be supplied to European countries who are paying cash for our food and to UNRRA.... but of course, not on the extensive scale we supplied these items during the war.

ANNCR: But, from the looks of things, there'll be plenty of demand in this country for all the dairy products that come to market.

PMA: And from the way we're eating cheese and drinking milk, we'll need every bit of that 120 billion pounds of milk which has been suggested as the 1946 production goal In some cases, as with butter, demand will be ahead of the supply. You've probably heard the comment that the Secretary of Agriculture recently made to the effect that if butter prices are increased, it will encourage greater production. The fact that ceiling prices are higher on other dairy products than on butter naturally has affected butter production.

ANNCR: Perhaps then, _____, you'd better go into this matter of ceiling prices a little more.

PMA: As I mentioned, it wasn't until ten months after the war started that ceiling prices went into effect on dairy products...because it wasn't until then that necessity clearly warranted ceiling prices. Ceilings aren't placed on any product without good reasons. Ceiling prices were established at the producer level only on items sold in finished form.

ANNCR: And what would that mean?

PMA: Producer ceilings were set on milk sold for consumption as milk, butter sold for consumption as butter...cream as cream, and so on.

ANNCR: In other words, ceilings weren't set at the producer level for milk on the basis of its future manufacturing use.

PMA: No, but ceilings were set on finished products made from milk at the processor or manufacturer's level, and at retail. And these ceilings were frozen at the highest prices processors had received for their products from September 28 to October 2 of that year. Then later, dollar and cents ceilings were established, based on these "freeze prices" and differing from one section of the country to another.....and taking into consideration other factors in marketing.

ANNCR: Ah....now I'm beginning to see the light. At the time the ceiling was set on butter, for example, the prices paid for dried milk and evaporated milk by the military were probably higher in relation to the whole dairy products price picture than for butter...because butter was an item being sold mainly on the domestic market...and the direct war demand wasn't as great for it as for some of the other dairy products.

PMA: Exactly. Cheddar cheese, for example, was in about the same position as butter at that time. So a subsidy on cheddar was put in effect two months after the ceilings were set. You see, the situation here was

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that manufacturers of evaporated, condensed and dried milk, and related products like ice cream powders, could pay producers more for milk than the processors of butter and cheese.

ANNCR: Thus now we have recommendations from the Secretary of Agriculture that butter prices should go up so more milk will be channeled in this direction.

PMA: That seems to be the idea. I'd like to explain a little more about the effect of war conditions on the present butter supply situation. Obviously, war food orders, subsidies and ceiling prices, combined with heavy military and civilian demand, did tend to force milk away from butter and from use on the farm. There was a tremendous increase in the use of milk as fluid milk and cream....and in its manufacture in the form of cheese, evaporated and condensed milk, ice cream powder, dried milk powder and other uses.

ANNCR: So, as you've mentioned, when practically all of the government controls except ceiling prices were removed...since the ceilings remained, we obviously keep on having a price situation which encourages producers to channel milk to outlets which will give the most favorable return.

PMA: And now, there's another fact which also influences the amount of milk available for butter. Perhaps you've noticed how much more ice cream is available...and how much richer it is.

ANNCR: I've also noticed a lot of the servicemen coming back are certainly populating the soda fountains of this town.....for some of those milk shakes and ice cream sundaes they couldn't get overseas.

PMA: As you well know, the West Coast is the landing spot for thousands upon thousands of South Pacific veterans.. After a few years of tropical heat, it's little wonder they're interested in ice cream. To meet this

(more)

increased demand for ice cream on the West Coast, there's been a seven hundred percent increase in production over a year ago, and the ice cream is far richer.

ANNCR: So this uses up more of the butterfat. But who's to begrudge the boys getting more ice cream...or richer ice cream. At any rate, we can see from the facts you've been giving us why butter production is lower right now.

PMA: And also, we're still drinking more milk...and using more, and richer cream. This makes further inroads into our milk supply. Thus, we have butter production at the lowest level in the past 23 years.

ANNCR: But irrespective of these increases, it is true, isn't it, that this coming year there will be a larger share of the milk supply available to civilians. What's more, isn't our milk supply...and consequently our butter supply.....usually low at this season of the year?

PMA: All that is very true. War demands have taken 20 billion pounds of milk a year. This coming year, most of that demand will be lacking. Thus civilians will get around 15 to 18 billion pounds of milk which haven't gone in their market channels before.

ANNCR: Well, since 1946 milk production promises to be high again, that suggested goal of 120 billion pounds you mentioned is only three billion pounds less than the 1945 production...perhaps along about this time in 1947, we won't have a butter problem.

PMA: Well, now, _____, I hope we won't. I'm sure steps will be taken by the industry, and by government agencies concerned with the dairy production and marketing problems, to solve the butter problem long before January, 1947.

ANNCR: And there you have it, friends, this week's report on home front food activities, with _____ _____ of the Production and Marketing Administration office at _____. Listen again (next week at this same time) for current news and information on FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM....AT HOME AND ABROAD. This broadcast on America's food program is presented especially for _____ farmers and consumers.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Service
821 Market Street, Room 555
San Francisco 3, California
Western Area

Approx. Time 15 minutes
January 16, 1946
District and State Directors
Can fit to allotted time



FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM----AT HOME AND ABROAD
(Weekly Script No. 93)

District and State Directors are urged to time all scripts in advance. News releases from this office are a good source of additional news items.

SUBJECTS: Abundant Foods in Western Area
Problem of Post War Food Surpluses

PARTICIPANTS: Announcer
P & MA

All music directions are purely optional, but would add finish to broadcast.

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MUSIC UP AND UNDER

ANNCR: Good _____, friends. We bring you another of our weekly broadcasts about food. Everyone of us wants to do everything he or she can, to help this great nation of ours in the reconversion to peacetime living. Our government still has a tremendous food management job ahead. How is it handling this job? And what can you do to help? You'll find out if you listen each week to:

PMA: FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM....AT HOME AND ABROAD.

ANNCR: And now here is _____ _____, assistant state director for the Production and Marketing Administration, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

PMA: Thank you, _____. How'd you like to hear about the abundant food list for February.

ANNCR: Sounds good to me, _____. I think we've covered the "short" side of the food picture pretty thoroughly these past few weeks. It's about time for some <u>good</u> news, I'd say. What foods <u>are</u> abundant these days, by the way?

PMA: Well, housewives in the Western area will be glad to know that eggs will in all probability be plentiful to abundant beginning next month.

ANNCR: That suits me fine! What's the reason for the increase in egg supplies?

PMA: There are two major reasons, _____. First, of course, military requirements have been reduced. Eggs are no longer being purchased by the Government in the heavy volume experienced over the last three years.

ANNCR: But how about the men being discharged and returning to civilian life? They'll continue to want eggs, won't they?

PMA: You're right on that score....demobilized military personnel have already increased civilian demand. But, on the whole, civilians won't require as many eggs per man as the armed forces did during the war. The second reason for eggs being one of our abundant foods is a matter of history repeating itself.

ANNCR: What do you mean by that?

PMA: Simply that egg production starts up in the early spring and reaches a peak in April and May. And this year is no exception. Production in the West has already started on the up grade. In San Francisco alone, over nine thousand cases of eggs were received on the wholesale markets during a recent week. This compares with just over <u>two</u> thousand cases for the same dates in December.

ANNCR: Why, that's an increase of 450 percent in a month's time!

PMA: Exactly. According to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, 1946 egg production is expected to be slightly under the 1945 record output of 56 billion eggs...but we must realize that 1945 was forty percent above 1940 and much above average. The recommended goal for chickens raised in 1946 is 83 percent of the number raised last year. This would provide a per capita consumption of eggs 10 percent above the 1937-41 average.

ANNCR: Now what's next on the abundant foods list for February, _____?

PMA: Get set for some corned beef and cabbage, _____, because the early spring crop of fresh cabbage ready for harvest in February will likely be abundant on the West coast. This is due to slightly increased plantings and a favorable growing season. Also, there's a considerable harvest of cabbage originally intended for dehydration, but not dehydrated because the Government cancelled its order. It's estimated there'll be about 230 thousand tons of winter and early spring market cabbage here in the West. This is compared with a 10 year average of about 80 thousand tons.

ANNCR: Quite an increase. Say, how about the potato crop....seems to me I heard something to the effect that it was pretty big.

PMA: The 1945 late potato crop...the one harvested last fall...is one of the largest on record, _____, with the exception of the 1943 crop. It amounts to over 121 million bushels in the 10 Western states alone.

ANNCR: Which means we'll be seeing plenty of spuds in the grocery stores around here.

PMA: Yes, present indications are that potatoes will be abundant at both wholesale and retail markets during February and that they'll be in surplus at most shipping points.

ANNCR: Could the problem of transporting those potatoes have something to do with the surplus at shipping points?

PMA: It certainly could, _____. There's a shortage of freight cars now, and probably will be all through February. This'll hold back any large amount of shipments from producing and shipping points. (PAUSE) Even though potatoes will be in abundance, prices will undoubtedly remain at ceiling levels on the wholesale and retail markets.

ANNCR: We can't eat up all this abundance of spuds, can we? Won't there be other outlets?

PMA: We'll be exporting potatoes to Canada, Belgium and France, never fear. The Government loan program and the diversion of part of the crop to alcohol plants will also help to relieve shipping point surpluses. Fourth on the abundant foods list is citrus fruits. And if you like oranges, _____, you'll be happy to know that the present California orange crop is 18 percent above the previous year...it totals almost 60 million boxes.

ANNCR: I'm pretty partial to grapefruit, too. What's the story on it?

PMA: Both grapefruit and lemon production were greater in the 1945 season than in the previous season. Taking grapefruit alone, however, we find the output slightly under 1944, but still heavy nevertheless. Harvesting and shipments will be fairly heavy during the next 30 to 60 days. And that just about winds up our abundant foods list, with the exception of turkeys.

ANNCR: I remember we talked about turkeys during the holidays. Are there still plenty of heavy toms on the market these days?

PMA: We might say the supply will be good to abundant, this month and next. The 1945 production of turkeys was 22 percent greater in the United States than the previous year. In the West, the production was up 1[illegible] percent. The cold storage situation is partially responsible for the good supply of heavy toms. You see, the lack of cold storage space at present will make more turkeys available to the civilian trade than would have been possible had storage conditions been normal. Also, some of the heavy toms which were supposed to have come to market during the holidays were held up because they were not mature enough to market at that time.

ANNCR: Then, to summarize, the list of abundant foods for February as announced by the Department of Agriculture, consists of eggs, potatoes, cabbage, citrus fruits and heavy tom turkeys.

PMA: Correct. Perhaps it might be in order for me to explain what we mean by "abundant foods".....

ANNCR: A very good idea...because now that the war is over, it does look as if our food picture is going to change...and we may have some honest-to-goodness surpluses....

PMA: Let's hope not...after all, we have agricultural legislation to prevent farm problems...to avoid farm surpluses. For instance, the Department's program of determining a monthly abundant food list and informing consumers of the foods on this list is one way of promoting great consumption of such foods while the, are in good supply.... thereby helping to prevent a surplus problem.

ANNCR: And if we have actual surpluses, as I recall, the Government will support prices at certain levels, so the farmer won't be left holding the sack...

PMA: That's true, in the case of the farm products on which the government asked for greatly increased supplies to meet war requirements. As we all know, you cannot turn farm production on and off like a spigot... adjustments in production may take six months...a year...or even two years...Thus, during the war years the farmers needed protection against the possibility of flooded markets and distressed prices, ...they also need protection for the several years after the war when the effects of increased production would still be felt. For these reasons Congress enacted price-support legislation designed to last for the duration and two years.

ANNCR: And since there has been no official declaration of the end of war, farmers are sure of price support for two more years...is that right?

PMA: Actually, the Steagall amendment which provides price support states that supports must run for two years after the end of the year in which the war's end is officially announced. Thus, it looks as if price support will last until the close of 1948...

ANNCR: Then, virtually, the farmers have the protection of price-support for another three years....

PMA: Yes, on the farm products which are covered by the Steagall amendment.

ANNCR: And what are these products?

PMA: The so-called "basic" crops...corn, wheat, tobacco, cotton, peanuts, and rice....and the Steagall crops, those on which wartime production increases were requested, which include hogs, chicken, eggs, dairy products and certain fruits and vegetables for processing. On the basic crops, the law says that prices for these will be supported at 90 percent of parity, except in the case of cotton, where the support level is 92 percent. On the second-named group, the Steagall group, the price support level must be <u>not less</u> than 90 percent.

ANNCR: And in both cases, as set forth in the law, this support is effective for another three years, according to what you've been telling us.

PMA: That's right....then, there is additional price support at fair levels for other than the two groups of products I mentioned, if sufficient funds are available.

ANNCR: Well, but do <u>all</u> other farm products fall into this third group?

PMA: Actually, while there are about 130 or more different commodities listed in this group, price support operations have been carried out for perhaps 20. And support for this third group is limited by the availability of funds.

ANNCR: There seems to be some question as to whether we actually will have farm surpluses this year. Some folks think the present high consumer demand for food here at home, plus foreign demand, will be sufficient to put off this problem another year...

PMA: It's a cinch we can't sit around waiting to see what does happen. And, of course, because we do have price support programs, the government can take precautions to stabilize prices when heavy supplies start driving prices down...For example, on eggs, if this spring, prices go below 90 percent of parity, the government will start making purchases under terms of the 1946 program which the Secretary announced late in December.

ANNCR: And at the same time, eggs will probably be on the abundant food list for the particular months in which they are in heavy supply...

PMA: Yes, and I should explain that this year's program places major emphasis on purchases of dried eggs...thus, a greater part of the buying will be carried on in the heavy egg producing areas of the midwest where most of our egg drying plants are located. There will be some purchases of frozen eggs...and shell egg buying will be limited to graded eggs, in carlots, purchased from cooperative organizations or dealers. However, the Department of Agriculture hopes egg producers will cooperate on a nation-wide scale to cull laying flocks, and bring 1946 production more in line with expected needs.

ANNCR: So a purchase program won't be necessary....

PMA: Exactly. It's expected that civilian consumption will be about 50 eggs less per person this coming year than it was in 1945. Military and export requirements are lower than a year ago....

ANNCR: Well, if the egg producers want a stable market for their product this coming season, sounds to me as if they'd better give some thought to this expected decrease in consumer demand.

PMA: Furthermore, they'd better give some consideration to the feed supply. Currently, there's a shortage of feed grains and protein which is giving livestock, dairy and poultry feeders quite a few headaches. Frankly everything seems to point toward the need for a lower egg production this coming year. And the government has indicated that 15 percent less production than we had in 1945 will do the trick.

ANNCR: However, all this discussion about the need for less eggs doesn't mean that the demand for food will go down to any great extent during the coming year....

PMA: You're quite right. In general, the demand for food will be high. People are able and willing to buy many food items now that were rationed during the war. And foreign demand will continue. Shipments of food to other countries are expected to be considerably above pre-war in the months ahead. But, aside from this high market demand for certain food items, or food in general, farmers still must consider 1946 farm production goals as a measuring stick for their operations.

ANNCR: And there you have it, friends, this week's report on home front food activities with _____ _____ of the Production and Marketing Administration office, at _____. Listen again (next week at this same time) for current news and information on FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM ...AT HOME AND ABROAD. This broadcast on America's wartime food program is presented especially for _____ farmers and consumers.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
821 Market Street, Room 555
San Francisco 3, California
Western Area

Approx. Time 15 minutes
January 23, 1946
District and State
Directors can fit to
allotted time.



FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM---AT HOME AND ABROAD
(Weekly Script No. 94)

District and State Directors are urged to time all scripts in advance. News releases from this office are a good source of additional news items.

SUBJECT: 1946 FARM PRODUCTION IN TERMS OF FOOD NEEDS

PARTICIPANTS: Announcer
P&MA

All music directions are purely optional, but would add finish to broadcast.

MUSIC UP AND UNDER

ANNCR: Good _____, friends. We bring you another of our weekly broadcasts about food. Everyone of us wants to do everything he or she can, to help this great nation of ours in the reconversion to peacetime living. Our government still has a tremendous food management job ahead. How is it handling this job? And what can you do to help? You'll find out if you listen each week to:

PMA: FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM....AT HOME AND ABROAD.

ANNCR: And now here is _____ _____, assistant state director for the Production and Marketing Administration, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

PMA: Recently, there's been considerable talk about price support operations... we've done some talking on this subject ourselves. With the protection of price-support, and guided by farm production goals, it looks as if our farmers can now move ahead for another year of high food production.

ANNCR: You mean, it's full steam ahead? How about the problem of farm surpluses.. ....the eggs, for instance?

PMA: Well, the general feeling is, _____, that the need for food will outweigh any fear of general surpluses for many months to come. However, the 1946 production goals do call for some adjustments..... while goals are about the same as last year's for many items, there are

PMA CONT'D: some reductions and some increases. And these changes reflect the shift from a strictly wartime picture to post-war. This year, military requirements will be lower, but civilian appetites will still be very high. Foreign food needs are higher. In fact, they will continue high while agricultural production in countries that were battlefields is in the process of restoration.

ANNCR: Then, actually, as far as food needs are concerned, a great many farmers won't be making much of a change in their operations during this first post-war year.

PMA: Quite right....some government officials believe there will be more real need for food in the world during the early months of 1946 than at any time since the start of the war.

ANNCR: That seems logical enough. After all, now that both Europe and the Pacific are liberated, it is possible to get more food to the needy people in these areas.

PMA: Well, for example, we are now able to send considerable quantities of food to the Philippines. As we all know, the people in the Philippines suffered terribly from the lack of food during the Japanese occupation. Their agricultural lands were turned into airports...their farm animals were confiscated by the Japs...or had to be consumed as food by the people who were desperately hungry.

ANNCR: And the soldiers coming back from the Philippines can tell some pretty sad stories about how hungry the children were for food when our armies liberated this area.

PMA: I think the food we'll be sending them will satisfy most of the hunger over there. Because we still have a high level of food production in this country, we'll be able to supply full quantities of all but four items requested by the Philippines, for the first three months of this year.

ANNCR: And what are the four items we can't supply?

PMA: We had to turn down their requests for butter and cheese, and limit their allocations of sugar and cocoa. On sugar, the allocation had to be cut because of short commercial supplies.

ANNCR: How much sugar will they get?

PMA: Two thousand tons has been allocated. Half of this will be obtained by the Department of Agriculture when the supply becomes available. Most of the sugar will go to hospitals, and to similar institutions.

ANNCR: And to think the Philippines used to send us a good part of our sugar supply!

PMA: About a million tons every year was the normal export for the Islands. But most of the cane fields and sugar mills were destroyed by occupation and war....which is one reason why our supply is short.

ANNCR: What's the story on cocoa?

PMA: The cocoa request was reduced because of our limited supplies. Then, on rice, which is their principal food, the U. S. Department of Agriculture will handle the allocation of 120 million pounds.

ANNCR: I notice that the government is obtaining some of this food...how will the rest be handled...through normal trade operations?

PMA: Yes, all items except the rice, and half the sugar will be handled through commercial trade. The food will be obtained here in this country, as soon as the Department of Commerce sets up export licenses.

ANNCR: You've mentioned the items that we had to limit....what can we send them plenty of?

PMA: They'll get the amounts they asked for on grain, canned meat, fish, milk, fruits and vegetables, dried fruits, fats and oils and soap. A full fiscal year's allocation on canned fish has been granted.....

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PMA CONT'D: 23 million, 850 thousand pounds....and also on canned fruits and vegetables, and dried fruits.....138 thousand, four hundred cases of canned peaches and pears.....456 thousand cases of canned vegetables... and one thousand, 113 tons of dried fruits. For the current three months, the allocation includes two million pounds of sweetened condensed milk and 15 million, 400 thousand pounds of evaporated milk.

ANNCR: With this variety of food, we can see that the Filipinos will now be able to get somewhere near a balanced diet.

PMA: And when you add to this, the quantities of food which we have been sending, and will continue to send, to European areas, it's no wonder that 1946 farm production goals are high on most products.

ANNCR: Well, as I understand, even with all the food we're exporting, we still haven't been able to fill the needs in many European areas.

PMA: Yes, that's true. In Great Britain, for instance, there hasn't been very much improvement in the diet over the war years....while the British diet is nourishing, it's still not too appetizing. And in many European cities, some people are getting only half as many calories as we do, or less.....and a majority of them are getting much less than half of the so-called protective foods.

ANNCR: However, isn't the matter of how much food we will export dependent on what methods are worked out for financing these exports?

PMA: Yes, that's a factor. But through the second contribution to UNRRA from the United States, food exports will continue to be high during most of this year. Our contribution to UNRRA will call for government purchases of about a hundred million dollars a month. And yet, as I mentioned awhile ago, we still can't supply all the food needs abroad.

ANNCR: You mean, on sugar, fats and oils, and other commodities that are in short supply?

PHA: That's right. On a long list of items, though, we will be able to meet a fair share of Europe's requirements, without cutting below a high level of food consumption here at home. Then, on wheat and several other items, we will be able to supply more. And this latter group will be the backbone of our foreign shipments.

ANNCR: I take it we have plenty of wheat for the liberated countries.

PHA: We have good supplies and we're sending more grain products than anything else. Even so, the total estimated requirements for world wheat imports during the first half of this year are still several million tons greater than the supply available in this country and the three other leading wheat exporters.

ANNCR: I'm beginning to see what you mean by the fact that even with high food production, there are still quite a few items that European countries want which they won't be able to have.

PHA: Yes, despite the fact this country and the other agricultural exporters will do their level best to supply food to these needy areas, there are all sorts of factors which have interfered since V-E Day and which will continue to be hindrances. We are naturally limited by transportation.

ANNCR: And it will probably be some time before the transportation system in Europe can be completely rebuilt.

PHA: So, for that reason, it will be difficult and, in some instances, impossible to reach certain of the distressed peoples. Then there are financial limitations....and these are all factors over which agriculture has no control.

ANNCR: In other words, the food for some of the needy people might be available, but we couldn't get it to them.

PMA: Exactly. However, many of these problems are being solved. And as the element of time gives European nations an opportunity to rebuild, it will be easier for us to fill this foreign demand for food.

ANNCR: At any rate, in 1946 we have a large foreign demand. And from all indications, our home front is going to eat plenty... especially since there's no rationing.

PMA: During wartime, with various limitations, our per capita food consumption was eight percent above pre-war. Now it's running around 15 percent above.

ANNCR: You know, I'm like a lot of non-farm people who don't know too much about the production end of agriculture....I'm wondering just how long we can keep our food production geared to such high levels. I remember when there was a lot of discussion about the way the soil had been depleted by too heavy cropping.... especially during World War I.

PMA: Fortunately, the farmers of this country have been doing considerable in the way of soil-building under the Agricultural Conservation Program. Our land was in good shape to produce the large crops we've had during war years. And soil conservation work has been going right along during the war. This year, more conservation is also one of the goals of the 1946 farm program.

ANNCR: You think, then, that after this war period, we won't have the same conservation program?

PILA: Why I know we won't. However, our livestock and poultry production is very dependent on the feed situation. And we have used up large quantities of grain that had accumulated before the war. The ever-normal granary we had when war broke out has helped materially to maintain high levels of supply in livestock, dairy and poultry products. Now that our grain reserves have been used up, we are more or less on a current basis. That's largely why meat production last year was something like 10 percent below the 1944 level.

ANNCR: But does that mean we'll have less meat this year?

PILA: Not necessarily. The experts measure meat production on the basis of livestock marketings. And this year, livestock marketings are expected to be larger than in 1945. But to get this, we'll need a big feed crop. So, 1946 farm production goals call for larger crops of feed grains....corn, oats, barley, and grain sorghums.

ANNCR: I know a lot of city folks who don't realize how important it is to them for the Midwest to have a big corn crop....but you're certainly giving us some idea of what can happen to our meat supply, if we don't have enough feed.

PILA: Yes, and we have to think ahead on this feed business. Weather can play an awful lot of havoc with the feed supply. Or have you forgotten that drought we had back in 1934?

ANNCR: Don't mention it....I think we've all had our fingers crossed on the matter of weather throughout the war.

PILA: The farmers certainly have. And they realize how necessary it is to build up feed supplies again.....as insurance against the possibility of bad weather.

ANNCR: That kind of insurance is a protection for all of us, even though we may not be aware of it.

PIL: Just to give you a concrete idea of how lucky we have been, on the subject of weather....since 1938, we've had eight consecutive years of generally favorable weather for the growth of grass in the Great Plains and some of the Mountain States....this grass has fed our cattle on range lands. A long run of good luck like that has occurred only once before in the past sixty years.

ANNCR: So we'd better not count on such good growing weather lasting much longer.

PIL: That's another reason why the Department of Agriculture and farmers, too, are going in for an aggressive job of soil conservation this year. During the war, the number of cattle fed on the 17 Western range states increased quite rapidly. In fact, in some cases, it exceeded the long-time carrying capacity of the grass, even under favorable weather. All this cattle meant, of course, more meat to fill heavy war demands. But now that the war is over, livestock producers are naturally going to pay more attention to the condition of their range lands. And that's to the benefit of everyone, now and in the future.

ANNCR: And there you have it, friends, this week's report on home front food activities, with _____, of the Production and Marketing Administration office at _____. Listen again (next week at this same time) for current news and information on FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM....AT HOME AND ABROAD. This broadcast on America's food program is presented especially for _____ farmers and consumers.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
821 Market Street, Room 555
San Francisco 3, California
Western Area

Approx. Time 15 minutes
January 30, 1946
District and State
Directors can fit to
allotted time.



FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM---AT HOME AND ABROAD
(Weekly Script No.95)

District and State Directors are urged to time all scripts in advance. News releases from this office are a good source of additional news items.

SUBJECT: 1946 FOOD NEEDS IN EUROPE

PARTICIPANTS: Announcer
P&MA

All music directions are purely optional, but would add finish to broadcast.

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MUSIC UP AND UNDER

ANNCR: Good _____, friends. We bring you another of our weekly broadcasts about food. Everyone of us wants to do everything he or she can, to help this great nation of ours in the reconversion to peacetime living. Our government still has a tremendous food management job ahead. How is it handling this job? And what can you do to help? You'll find out if you listen each week to:

PMA: FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM...AT HOME AND ABROAD

ANNCR: And now here is _____ _____, assistant state director for the Production and Marketing Administration, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

PMA: Lately, we've had some discussion on farm surpluses, _____, and of the problems the United States is going to face regarding them. But doesn't it seem ironic that while we're talking about surpluses and abundant foods, the people of Europe are starving?

ANNCR: Yes, it seems to be a case of want in the midst of plenty....even to the point of being a burden on producers.

PMA: Here in the United States, agricultural production increased about 33 percent during the war.....in the British Isles, there was a 60 percent increase. In other parts of the world, food production has increased by a lesser percentage or has about held its own. It's a surprising fact that the total output of food in the entire world during the past year was slightly above the prewar total.....especially when you consider the war damage in Europe and the poor growing conditions in most countries.

ANNCR: We have to hand it to farmers throughout the world for their top-flight job of food production. And yet, this was not enough. The people of the war-torn countries were hungry all through the war...and they are still hungry.

ANNCR: Which means that they'll continue to need our help, through the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, if they're going to survive at all in the next year.

PMA: Two of the most urgent needs in the European countries receiving UNRRA aid are, first....an increase in grain shipments to prevent immediate widespread starvation, and second...materials to help in the planting of spring crops.

ANNCR: How about clothing and medical supplies, _____?

PMA: They're both desperately needed, too, and UNRRA is trying to take care of these needs as quickly as possible.

ANNCR: Let's take a look at some of the countries receiving UNRRA aid, _____, to see what the present situation is.

PMA: We might begin with Greece, where UNRRA food has meant the difference between life and starvation for hundreds of thousands of men, women and children. The war left nearly a million people without shelter of any kind. Almost 1700 villages were partly or completely destroyed. In normal times, some 30 percent of the food requirements must be imported.

ANNCR: And these are definitely not normal times in Greece. The war and bad weather must have increased that percentage considerably.

PMA: The drought in the Mediterranean cut down cereal production...local grain supplies were exhausted by mid-November...and half the calorie ration has had to depend directly on the UNRRA bread ration.

ANNCR: What items is UNRRA sending to Greece?

PMA: In addition to maintaining a steady flow of wheat into the country, UNRRA has been shipping seed, fertilizer, pesticides, livestock and farm machinery. By the end of November, the fall plantings in Greece were 90 percent of pre-war levels. Prospects for the coming year look pretty good from an agricultural standpoint....providing the country doesn't have another drought.

ANNCR: Facts like this should make all of us realize how important our contributions are to the people of Europe...we can be mighty glad we're able to help them.

PMA: Well, _____, if Americans could just see for themselves the grateful faces of the Greeks when they receive our cast-off clothing, they wouldn't have to be reminded to put every bit of clothing they can spare into the collection box. Incidentally, UNRRA has been sending raw wool and raw cotton to ease the clothing situation from another angle... They've also been shipping raw materials into villages and small towns to help the people who have established community work centers for the weaving of cloth. Some of the people have even made their own looms...

ANNCR: That brings up a point which strikes me as being very important.... the people in these countries seem so eager and willing to help themselves.

PMA: You're right, _____. Take Poland, for example. The picture there is one of complete destruction of all the things people need in order to live...homes, factories, roads and bridges, rail lines and ports were virtually swept away by the enemy. War kept the Poles from doing their spring plowing. What they did manage to plant couldn't be completely harvested due to a lack of farm machinery and draft animals. And yet, there is no indifference and no cynicism among the people. Instead, they're ready and willing to start building up their country.

ANNCR: What seems to be the greatest problem in Poland today, _____?

PMA: I'd say it is lack of transportation facilities. It is heartbreaking when we think that in many cases, the crops which the people harvested by hand with superhuman effort rotted in the fields because the farmers didn't have the trucks or horses to move them to the cities.

ANNCR: I suppose we're sending some trucks over now, along with the food supplies.

PMA: Yes, UNRRA is gradually meeting part of this need. (PAUSE) Another difficulty in Poland is the spread of inflation. When word got around that the first shipload of UNRRA supplies had arrived, prices of many goods dropped. It is vitally important that we continue to send goods to Poland to help control inflation and help prevent the social and economic unrest which could so easily arise. Food, of course, is the most acute shortage...and the main food needs are meats and fats.

ANNCR: Which gives the housewives another very good reason for salvaging used kitchen fats. Well now, _____, you mentioned that lack of transportation is Poland's biggest problem. Isn't this also true in other European countries?

PMA: Yes, in almost every one of the formerly occupied countries, the transportation systems have been wrecked or utterly ruined. Road transport in Yugoslavia is particularly difficult and they have a very unusual problem there.

ANNCR: What's that?

PMA: There are no paved roads in Yugoslavia. During the war most of the bridges were destroyed. Normally it is a very slow process to move supplies by road...and this winter, the roads are almost useless.

ANNCR: So it is one thing to get the food to these needy countries and another thing to distribute it.

PMA: Exactly. Nevertheless, it must be done somehow. We are under obligation to provide food at least until the 1946 harvest. If we failed to continue the present flow of supplies, tens of thousands of people would die each day from starvation. We cannot let that happen. The Yugoslavs have shown great energy and resourcefulness in rebuilding their country. Their agricultural losses were tremendous. The country lost over half of its cattle, sheep, poultry and draft animals. In some sections, this loss has been as high as 95 percent.

ANNCR: What are the prospects for this year, _____?

PMA: On the whole, they're better. The farm equipment we've sent has helped, but in some cases where no other means were available, the people themselves dragged the plows...six and eight to the plow. As a result of this physical labor alone, the fall plantings are close to those of pre-war years.

ANNCR: Just another example of the "can't-be-beaten" quality of these people. I sometimes wonder if Americans could go through as much and still be willing to make such terrific sacrifices to rebuild their homeland.

PMA: I somehow think we could if we were put to the test. But let's hope we never are. That's what the United Nations Organization is trying to prevent. However, speaking of sacrifices, the Czech government is sending over two thousand tons of refined sugar to UNRRA from this year's sugar campaign. This contribution becomes more impressive when we realize that this year's sugar beet crop in Czechoslovakia was 33 percent below the pre-war level...and that sugar is being rigidly rationed to the Czechs.

ANNCR: This sounds very good for the Czechs. What kind of a recovery are they making?

PMA: Excellent, from all reports. During six years of German occupation, the entire economy of Czechoslovakia was plundered...the effects of the fighting was felt from one end of the republic to the other. As a result, the Czechs lost a large part of their livestock, their tractors and their agricultural draftpower. The 1945 crops of cereals and other crops decreased a third to almost half of pre-war yields.

ANNCR: Quite a serious drop.

PMA: Yes...especially for a country that used to be self-sufficient on food. At the end of 1945, over 330 thousand tons of UNRRA supplies had been shipped to Czechoslovakia. Among those deliveries were four thousand trucks to help solve transportation difficulties...again, the biggest problem.

ANNCR: So far in our discussion of the situations in these countries, transportation...or lack of it...semms to be the greatest problem.

PMA: In Italy, however, the need for food is more desperate than anything else. For lack of food, the coal miners at Carbonia had to leave their jobs and go in search of something to eat for their families. Absenteeism rose to 30 percent in this section and mine operations were slowed down by a 10 percent monthly turnover in labor. All this simply because there was not enough food to go around. The Italians also need shoes and clothing. UNRRA has promised to supply the clothing, and shoes are being bought from army surpluses. For a long time, the miners went down into the mines and hacked out the coal in their bare feet.

ANNCR: And in this country we still hear some women complaining that they "haven't a thing to wear!"

PMA: In addition to food, Italy needs coal and raw materials. She will have to import cotton, wool and petroleum products. She will need farm machinery and fertilizers to help rebuild the entire agricultural economy and to increase next year's harvests. By the end of the year, wheat reserves in the country will be sufficient to meet less than a month's daily ratión needs. Furthermore, Italy needs these items now. Without adequate crops this coming year, she cannot get back on her feet.

ANNCR: So until those crops are available, we must continue to send food.

PMA: Yes...some two million tons of food, to be exact, _____. In Italy, as in the other countries, a food shortage...or a fear of one...could cause serious economic and social chaos. The failure of a few shiploads of wheat to arrive on time means the immediate skyrocketing in prices of domestically-grown grain. When those shipments arrive on time, domestic prices stay nearer normal.

ANNOR: It's very hard for us to even imagine the suffering in Europe, isn't it?

PMA: Yes, _____, even when we hear facts like these. Just listen... In Albania, more than 23 thousand homes....one-tenth of all the houses...were destroyed. Another four thousand lost their roofs. Furthermore, the country depends on road transport...and Albania has never had a railroad. There were a good number of truckes, busses and cars, but the Germans requisitioned most of these.

ANNOR: Didn't the people in some cases destroy some of their own property, to keep it from the enemy?

PMA: Yes, and this did happen in Albania. Also, this year, malaria-bearing mosquitoes are much worse, because there has been no drainage of the land for quite some time. Much of the land was left untilled due to the fighting. This fact, together with a drought and a plague of locusts, reduced the harvest to 50 or 60 percent of normal.

ANNOR: And yet, I'll wager the Albanians are already on the road to recovery.

PMA: They've made a lot of headway, _____, because they want to help themselves. The Government has set up strict price control and rationing of necessities. It has worked out an excellent method to control distribution. Some supplies go through normal commercial channels and others are handled by the government. For example, flour goes to bakers who sell their bread to the public...sugar is sold by grocers. Supplies to the needy are handled by the Ministry of Social Assistance. Wheat seed is given free to the poorest farmers. Two thousand tons of wheat seed from the United States was distributed throughout the country. Latest reports are that there is a good supply of wheat in almost every locality.

ANNCR: How about clothing?

PMA: Albania is asking UNRRA for cotton yarn...mostly for home weaving... and for cotton piece goods. She also needs a little raw wool to supplement her depleted supply. Her principal needs...in addition to food...are livestock, tractors, handplows and harrows...in fact, all kinds of agricultural equipment.

ANNCR: Well, it seems to me that by sending food and agricultural supplies, UNRRA is not only helping to avert social and economic unrest...but is giving the people of these countries the chance to work out their own destiny....and I think that is very important. And there you have it, friends....this week's report on home front food activities, with _____, of the Production and Marketing Administration office at _____. Listen again (next week at this same time) for current news and information on FOOD FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM...AT HOME AND ABROAD. This broadcast on America's food program is presented especially for _____ farmers and consumers.